

AS BARON RENFREW

Features of King Edward's Visit to
This City in 1860.

WAS PRESIDENT BUCHANAN'S GUEST

Pleasantly Entertained During His
Brief Sojourn.

AT WASHINGTON'S TOMB

Edward VII. King of England, visited the United States as Baron Renfrew in 1901. It was the crucial year in the calendar of the American nation which had been wrested from his forbears. The states were in the throes of a presidential election which was to place in the lead of affairs an individuality, Lincoln, which was to prove for the perpetuation of American institutions as potent as another individuality, Cromwell, had proved to be for the perpetuation of English institutions. Baron Renfrew, Prince of Wales, was a young man, turning his twentieth year, when he set foot on a part of his own heritage to the north of us. He opened the Crystal Palace exposition in Montreal; he saw Blondin walk the tight rope across the river below Niagara Falls on stilts, and then, when he began his journey of the states, he started to observe the great re-



Prince of Wales When in America.

public of the west from a point that was an unknown wilderness when the colonies of the king were transformed by the tempest of a liberty-loving group of indignant subjects into a galaxy of imperishable states. In this he had the advantage of the vast majority of foreigners who preceded and have followed him; who disembark on the Atlantic seaboard and reach the heart of the nation, which is Washington, without having opportunity to realize the tremendous arteries of the body politic which send the streams of energy to keep that central organ animate and energetic. He saw, ere he reached the capital city, a portion of that gauntlet of nerves that reach from the most remote vein and nerve of that living entity. With him were men thoroughly capable of acquainting him with the vast meaning of what he observed.

There was the Duke of Newcastle, who had been secretary for war when the Crimean expedition left England, and who realized the fatality of over-confidence. There was the Earl St. Germain, the liberal statesman whose career as secretary of state had been marked by a deep understanding of how composite the population of the Union might be, the deep underlying sentiment was that his England was the mother country after all.

A Bright Girl's Picture of Him.

One of the best pictures of the prince at that time which appeared in print was a letter from a young Boston girl which was published in the Boston Transcript. She had seen the prince at Niagara Falls, and wrote as follows:

"On Saturday I saw the prince walking in the most democratic manner. He trudged along in the middle of the road with Sir Edmund Head, the Duke de Noers, and other gentlemen. He wore light pants, very large, a blue sack coat a tall white hat and a turn-over collar and such a whoppingly big bow tie. He went along in a very much like that photograph. The prince's uncle sent home from London. His equerries followed with horses and he went to the falls, while we walked on the bank till he turned back and we had another splendid view. He then went under the falls, but soon came out and mounted a quick walk with his cane and his arm. The people cheered, he raised his hat slightly and trotted off. He rides well. After dinner we got an old carriage with holes in the bottom to go and see Blondin

walk across the river on stilts. The prince was to be there, and we took a stand on Suspension bridge, as being the best place to see the performance.

"Blondin's rope is a quarter of a mile long and 200 feet above the river, which roars and rushes along below with the most frightful noise. He had gone about half way, when his foot slipped and he fell, but sitting on the rope. It took him some time to get up, first to his feet, then on to one side and then to the other. Crowds were watching him, but were still as could be. He walked across without further accident, and the prince left the place. I saw him while talking with a party and he smiled often. His face is beautiful when he smiles and looks very young."

He made his entrance into the United States from Hamilton, crossing the Canadian borders at Windsor, and the first city reached was Detroit. As at all other places, there was a tremendous crowd out. From Detroit he went to Chicago. He had some prairie experience while there, going to Dwight for shooting and having some excellent sport with prairie chicken, quail and

pheasant. He proved himself to be an excellent shot. From Chicago the party went to St. Louis, Cincinnati and Harrisburg, and came from the latter place where only a night was spent, to Washington.

Arrival in Washington.

There was, for those days, a tremendous crowd at the Baltimore and Ohio depot when the special train bearing the prince and his companions arrived about 6 o'clock Wednesday, October 3, 1890. General Lewis Cass, the venerable Secretary of State, and James Buchanan and James Buchanan Henry, nephews of the President, were there to meet him, as were Mayor James G. Berret and other city officials. The prince was the first to alight from the special train, and he did so unattended. He was quickly joined by Lord Lyons, the Duke de Noers, General Bruce and the others, and went forward to meet General Cass, Mayor James G. Berret and others in the receiving party.

Gen. Cass expressed the pleasure the administration felt upon greeting the royal representative of Great Britain, and the prince responded with few graceful acknowledgments. There was much significance in the meeting of these two gentlemen, despite the disparity of their ages. The elder had been born before the treaty of peace in 1783, and was consequently born a British subject, according to the British constitution. Gen. Cass had also been present at the coronation of the prince's illustrious mother, Queen Victoria.

After the interchanges the prince took President Buchanan's open carriage with Secretary Cass, the Duke of Newcastle and Lord Lyons. The rest of the retinue followed in the carriages of Secretaries Cass, Cobden, Tauxey and Lord Lyons. Upon arriving at the White House the prince was introduced to President Buchanan by Secretary Cass.

President Buchanan rose within the door and welcomed his youthful guest. The meeting between the two was extremely cordial. There were greetings of greeting, to which the prince warmly responded, and then the President led the way to the blue room, where Miss Harriet Lane, his

niece, now Mrs. Harriet Lane Johnson of this city, and Mrs. Ellis of Alabama, a niece of the late Vice President King, were waiting.

An Historic Picture.

The accompanying illustration, which shows the prince and his party during their visit to Washington, was reproduced from a photograph taken by Brady from the original picture taken by Brady. The latter was a very large one. Like all of Brady's photographs, it was remarkable for the likeness it perpetuated, and the presentation of the present king in his youthful days is regarded as one of the most striking and characteristic pictures of him ever taken.

The young man in the center of the group who stands with his hands crossed, his walking stick and holding a high hat, is the index finger of his left hand was the Prince of Wales. The party, bearded gentleman standing at his left hand and slightly behind him was the Duke of Newcastle. The three gentlemen of distinction in the cast room. There was a big crowd, but the prince was so tired that the reception was closed in half an hour. His dress was the subject of remark, as it was a blue coat and gray trousers. He merely bowed in response to the salutations of the callers, but several ladies succeeded in shaking hands with him.

In the evening, at 6 o'clock, there was a diplomatic dinner given by the President. The guests were seated at the table at which the diplomatic corps and the members of the cabinet were present. At 9 o'clock Miss Lane gave a reception to the prince and his party. The prince and his party were seated at the table with Miss Lane and the prince on either side, and opposite to him was President Buchanan and Secretary Cass and Thompson at his right and left.

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These are but slight recitals of incidents surrounding the prince's visit to the United States, and more particularly to its capital city. He showed himself then to be eminently capable and equipped with a very pronounced share of practical common sense. Probably he entertains today the same ideas regarding the great republic he then visited as his illustrious mother showed in her letter to the President. Probably he realizes that, while Anglophobia is a social rather than a substantial evil, the prejudice against the United States is a social rather than a substantial one. The prince's arrival numbered thirty-four. It began at 6 o'clock. The prince led in Miss Lane and sat at her

right, and the President sat directly opposite, with the Duke of Newcastle on his right. The Marine Band was in attendance.

Thursday morning, October 4, was devoted to a visit to the Capitol, where the prince and his party were received by Mr. Walters, the architect, and Capt. Franklin, the chief engineer of government works. The building was explored and the unfinished dome commented on. Afterward the patent office was visited. At noon President Buchanan gave a reception in the prince's honor at the White House. The prince and his party were seated at the table with Miss Lane and the prince on either side, and opposite to him was President Buchanan and Secretary Cass and Thompson at his right and left.

Features of the Departure.

Next morning, Saturday, October 6, the prince and his suite, accompanied by Secretaries Cass and Floyd, Attorney General Black and Augustus Schell of New York, embarked on the harbor and went to Aquia creek, where a special train was taken to Richmond. The leave-taking was a most striking occasion. The prince and his suite were seated at the table with Miss Lane and the prince on either side, and opposite to him was President Buchanan and Secretary Cass and Thompson at his right and left.

Some of the Youth's Traits.

The good opinion of the young man which the public so quickly secured was even more emphatically entertained by those who were thrown into more intimate contact with him. He was every inch a gentleman; courteous, kindly, genial and particularly solicitous for the comfort of his companions and the convenience of his hosts. He was particularly struck and not a little amazed at the reception given to him by the President, to see the venerable and courtly Buchanan, an old school gentleman of the most exalted character, shaking hands with all who came. He remarked upon it afterward, and when he

was assured it was a democratic institution, remarked smilingly:

"You seem to be a nation of handshakers."

He was, himself, democratic in his characteristics. This was shown when he went with Miss Lane and others to the gymnasium at the girls' school mentioned above to play ten pins. Noticing the rings hanging

from the ceiling he swung himself across the apartment hand over hand, and then laughed joyously when Lord Hinchenbrook attempted to follow suit and failed.

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